

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

February 2, 2000

Michael Childers, Treasurer Tammy Baldwin for Congress P.O. Box 696 Madison, WI 53701

RE: MUR 4965
Tammy Baldwin for Congress and
Michael Childers, as treasurer

Dear Mr. Childers:

On January 24, 2000, the Federal Election Commission found that there is reason to believe Tammy Baldwin for Congress and you, as treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(a)(6)(A), a provision of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"). The Factual and Legal Analysis, which formed a basis for the Commission's finding, is attached for your information.

You may submit any factual or legal materials that you believe are relevant to the Commission's consideration of this matter. Please submit such materials to the General Counsel's Office within 15 days of your receipt of this letter. Where appropriate, statements should be submitted under oath. In the absence of additional information, the Commission may find probable cause to believe that a violation has occurred and proceed with conciliation.

In order to expedite the resolution of this matter, the Commission has also decided to offer to enter into negotiations directed towards reaching a conciliation agreement in settlement of this matter prior to a finding of probable cause to believe. Enclosed is a conciliation agreement that the Commission has approved.

If you are interested in expediting the resolution of this matter by pursuing preprobable cause conciliation, and if you agree with the provisions of the enclosed agreement, please sign and return the agreement, along with the civil penalty, to the Commission. In light of the fact that conciliation negotiations, prior to a finding of probable cause to believe, are limited to a maximum of 30 days, you should respond to this notification as soon as possible.

Requests for extensions of time will not be routinely granted. Requests must be made in writing at least five days prior to the due date of the response and specific good cause must be demonstrated. In addition, the Office of the General Counsel ordinarily will not give extensions beyond 20 days.

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If you intend to be represented by counsel in this matter, please advise the Commission by completing the enclosed form stating the name, address, and telephone number of such counsel, and authorizing such counsel to receive any notifications and other communications from the Commission.

This matter will remain confidential in accordance with 2 U.S.C. §§ 437g(a)(4)(B) and 437g(a)(12)(A), unless you notify the Commission in writing that you wish the investigation to be made public.

For your information, we have attached a brief description of the Commission's procedures for handling possible violations of the Act. If you have any questions, please contact Donald E. Campbell, the staff member assigned to this matter, at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,

Darryl R. Wold
Chairman

Enclosures
Factual and Legal Analysis
Procedures
Designation of Counsel Form
Conciliation Agreement

cc:

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin United States House of Representatives 1020 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION FACTUAL & LEGAL ANALYSIS

RESPONDENTS: Tammy Baldwin for Congress and

Michael Childers, as treasurer

MUR: 4965

This matter was generated based on information ascertained by the Federal Election Commission ("the Commission") in the normal course of carrying out its supervisory responsibilities. See 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(2).

The Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"), requires principal campaign committees of candidates for federal office to notify in writing either the Secretary of the Senate or the Commission, as appropriate, and the Secretary of State of the appropriate state, of each contribution totaling \$1,000 or more, received by any authorized committee of the candidate after the 20th day but more than 48 hours before any election. 2 U.S.C. § 434(a)(6)(A). The Act further requires notification to be made within 48 hours after the receipt of the contribution and to include the name of the candidate and office sought, the date of receipt, the amount of the contribution, and the identification of the contributor. Id. The notification of these contributions shall be in addition to all other reporting requirements. 2 U.S.C. § 434(a)(6)(B).

The General Election in the state of Wisconsin was held on November 3, 1998. Pursuant to the Act, Tammy Baldwin for Congress and Michael Childers, as treasurer ("the Committee"), were required to notify the Commission, in writing, of all contributions of \$1,000 or more received from October 15 to October 31, 1998, within 48 hours of their receipt. A review of the Committee's 1998 30 Day Post-General Report identified twenty-nine contributions received during the aforementioned period, of \$1,000 or more, and totaling \$37,502.92. The Committee did not submit 48 Hour Notices for these contributions.

On January 20, 1999, a Request For Additional Information ("RFAI") was sent to the Committee by the Reports Analysis Division, noting that the Committee may have failed to file

one or more of the required 48-Hour Notices. In a letter dated March 1, 1999, the Committee addressed the issue of 48-Hour Notices by stating, "[W]e have also updated our 48-Hour Notice policy to ensure that each qualifying contribution gets reported in accordance with the law."

Therefore, there is reason to believe that Tammy Baldwin for Congress and Michael Childers, as treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(a)(6)(A) by failing to report campaign contributions of \$1,000 or more, received after the 20th day, but more than 48 hours before the general election, within 48 hours of receipt of the contributions.